

THEIR WORK DRAWING TO A CLOSE.

WILL THE COMMISSION FOR THE REVISION OF THE EXCISE LAWS CLOSE ALL PLACES WHERE LIQUOR IS SOLD AT MIDNIGHT?

Dr. Crosby recovered from his illness sufficiently to attend yesterday's session of the Commission for the Revision of the Excise Laws, and Chairman Rollins also attended, for the first time this week. The subject of penalties was further considered. The first provision adopted was to the effect that any one selling liquor on credit should not be allowed to bring suit to recover the amount, nor should any of the debtor's property be held as security. This, however, was made to apply only to places where liquor is sold to be drunk on the premises. After some debate the following section was adopted for the sale of liquor without any license whatever: "Whoever shall sell any strong or spirituous liquors, wines, or beer to be drunk on the premises, without having a license therefor granted under the provisions of this act, shall upon conviction thereof be fined not less than \$100 nor more than \$1,000, and be imprisoned not less than one month nor more than four months. No person so convicted shall be granted a license of any kind for a term of three years after such conviction." The penalty for selling strong liquors under a fermented liquor license, and for permitting liquor to be drunk upon the premises, which was sold under a storekeeper's license, was fixed the same as for sale without any license, with the exception that the term of imprisonment should be more than four months, leaving the minimum length of imprisonment entirely in the discretion of the court.

In regard to the hours for selling liquor, Commissioner Stern said that he was desirous that all drinking-places should be closed at midnight, but he thought that they should be opened early in the morning for the thousands of workmen in this city who had to go to their work exceedingly early in the morning. He thought 5 o'clock was the proper hour for opening in the morning. Dr. Crosby was opposed to opening these places so early. He thought 6 o'clock early enough. Commissioner Thompson offered a compromise, which was unanimously agreed to. It was that from September 21 each year until March 21 of the following year the hours of closing should be from 12 midnight until 6 a. m.; from March 21 until September 21 they should be from 12 midnight to 5 a. m.

This having been adopted, Commissioner Thompson took up the subject of special licenses for balls, to sell after closing hours, and for all-night opening in certain parts of the city, near public offices, hotels, etc. Dr. Crosby said, however, that he was opposed to at least an hour's opening, and as it was nearly 1 o'clock, he hoped that would not be then considered. Accordingly the contest on this and the Sunday question were postponed until today's session. These two questions, special licenses for sale during closing hours and the Sunday sales, are practically all that remain to be determined, and although both are certain to be hotly discussed, the members of the Commission expect to have the bill ready for the Legislature to put into legal phraseology by the end of the present week. The bill must be ready to be introduced on January 10, and as they will not work during Christmas week, the time remaining for their work is exceedingly limited.

A CONFERENCE OF THE CATHOLIC CLERGY.

The second of the quarterly conferences of the Roman Catholic clergy of this archdiocese took place yesterday in the hall attached to St. Patrick's Institute, No. 272 Mulberry-st. Archbishop Corrigan presided, and was attended by the Very Rev. Monsignor Preston. "The Dogmatic Thesis" was the title of an interesting paper read by Father Lynch, of the Church of the Transfiguration. The Rev. Nicholas J. Hughes, of St. Mary's Church, in Grand-st., spoke on the question of scripture. Papers were also read by the Rev. John Boyle and the Rev. John B. Sailer, of St. Rose of Lima Church. The Rev. Nicholas Russo acted as Moderator. The number of churches in the district is forty-four, and one or more priests representing each church were present.

MARINE INTELLIGENCE.

MINIATURE ALMANAC.

TO-DAY.

Sun rise, 7:17; Set, 4:32; Moon rise, 6:41; Moon set, 1:17.

WINDY.

W. H. SANDY HOOK, 8:29; GOV. ISLAND, 8:51; HELL GATE, 10:40.

F. M. SANDY HOOK, 9:28; GOV. ISLAND, 9:58; HELL GATE, 11:27.

INCOMING STEAMERS.

Vessel	From	Sailed	Line
State of Indiana	St. Louis	Dec 18	National
State of Alabama	Havana	Dec 18	National
State of Georgia	London	Dec 18	National
State of Pennsylvania	Glasgow	Dec 18	National
State of New York	Havana	Dec 18	National
State of Florida	London	Dec 18	National
State of Virginia	Glasgow	Dec 18	National
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